

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Oxidation catalyst compositions for treating diesel exhaust include ceria and, optionally, alumina, each having a surface area of at least about 10 m²/g, and a zeolite, e.g., Beta zeolite. Optionally, platinum may be included in the catalytic material, preferably in amounts which are sufficient to promote some gas-phase oxidation of carbon monoxide ("CO") and hydrocarbons ("HC") but which are limited to preclude excessive oxidation of SO₂ to SO₃. Alternatively, palladium in any desired amount may be included in the catalytic material. The zeolite is optionally doped, e.g., ion-exchanged, with one or more of hydrogen, a platinum group metal or other catalytic metals. The catalyst compositions may be used in a method to treat diesel engine exhaust by contacting the hot exhaust with the catalyst composition to promote the oxidation of gas-phase CO and HC and of the volatile organic fraction component of particulates in the exhaust.

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